

April 5, 2013

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing Testimony

HB 6690 AN ACT CONCERNING COURT PROCEEDINGS AND THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS.

Testimony from Jane C. Bachand
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Volunteer at Our Companions Animal Rescue
Member, CT Votes for Animals

Dear members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify IN SUPPORT of H.B. 6690.

bill, if passed, will allow court-appointed advocates for animals during legal proceedings that concern the animals' welfare or custody.

Advocates for animals are desperately needed in our state. Not only would this bill provide an advocate in court for an egregiously injured animal, but it would also document the animal's injuries and level of suffering, and help the court make decisions for the animal's welfare.

Our society needs not only to speak for our voiceless creatures, but we need to take such violent acts of animal cruelty seriously, as it has been proven time and time again that cruelty to animals is a precursor to future and escalating violent behavior toward people.

I thank you for considering my testimony on this important piece of legislation.